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Mysore Govt. Museum, Bangalore
Annual Report for the year ending
March, 1950



Lakshmi Narayana—Wooden—from a temple
car (Ratha)—Yelahanka, Bangalore Taluk—
about 200 years old. (Height 18".)

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

READ—

Letter No. 182, dated 22nd August 1950, from the Director of Industries and Commerce and Government Museum, forwarding the report on the working of the Government Museum for the year ending 31st March 1950.

ORDER No. 4884-8—MUS. 2-50-2, DATED BANGALORE,
THE 18TH OCTOBER 1950.

Recorded.

Museum Advisory Committee.—It is noted with pleasure that the Chairman of the Museum Advisory Committee continued to take an active interest in the Institution during the year under report. Though there were no meetings of the Committee during the year, he visited the Institution on a number of occasions and reviewed the progress made by the Museum in its various branches of work and offered helpful instructions for its improvement, in consultation with the Members of the Committee. Government would be glad if regular meetings of the Committee could be held occasionally to review the working of the Institution.

Galleries.—Arrangements for the introduction of a uniform background for display of specimens and the gradual replacement of the deteriorated specimens of the Natural History Section are reported to be progressing steadily. This work should be expedited and completed early.

Archaeology.—Arrangements may also be made early to acquire the isolated pieces of ancient sculpture pertaining to the periods of Ganga and Hoysala Dynasties, which are reported to be available at Halebid and other places in the State.

Visitors.—The Museum attracted as usual a large number of visitors, including 6,745 students. The total

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number of visitors during the period of nine months under report was 234,598 as against 494,437 in the previous twelve months.

The working of the Institution was generally satisfactory.

L. MUNISWAMY,
*Secretary to Government,
 Local Self-Government Department.*

To—The Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore and
 Chairman, Government Museum, Bangalore.

The Director of Printing and Stationery, Bangalore.

The other Heads of Departments.

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REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE MYSORE GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, BANGALORE, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31st MARCH 1950.

Museum Advisory Committee.—The Chairman visited the Institution on a number of occasions to review the progress made in the different sections and offered helpful instructions for the improvement of the Institution. As there was no meeting of the Museum Advisory Committee during the period under report, the members of the Committee were consulted on all matters arising from time to time regarding the acquisition of specimens pertaining to their sections and their display.

Galleries.—The introduction of a uniform background for the specimens commenced during the year 1947-48, to improve the general appearance of the galleries is making steady progress. The gradual elimination of the deteriorated specimens of the Natural History section is being continued and at the same time arrangements are also being made to acquire fresh specimens to replace the old ones removed from the galleries. A total number of 154 specimens have been acquired and a descriptive list of the same is furnished in Appendix 'A'.

Photographs of some of the important exhibits such as sculptures and a collection of typical set of arms, that are in the Museum, have been taken for the preparation of half-tone blocks for publication in the annual report of 1948-49.

In order to develop a photographic section in the Museum to expand the educational activities by means of photographs and lantern slides of groups of exhibits displayed in the various sections, a camera was acquired during the year. Steps will be taken in this regard as soon as the permanent Artist of the Museum, who has been deputed to Government Brass Works, Nagamangala, is reverted.

Geology.—The attempts made for the acquisition of a complete set of specimens illustrating the several stages in the extraction of gold at the Bellara Gold Mines, Tumkur District, is being pursued.

Zoology.—A specimen of a snake, which was collected from around Bangalore, has been preserved as a spirit specimen for the reptile gallery. The replacement of deteriorated specimens with suitable fresh ones in the Natural History section has improved the general appearance of the gallery to a great extent. Under this scheme steps have been taken to acquire some more specimens of mammals, *i.e.*, Hyaena and an Elephant cub mounted entire as Museum trophies. The renewal of the deteriorated specimens in the bird gallery is engaging attention and this could only be done gradually as and when fresh skins of specimens of the required types become available.

Archæology.—Several isolated pieces of ancient sculpture of good workmanship, pertaining to the periods of Ganga and Hoysala periods, exposed to sun and rain in many places of the State, *viz.*, Halebid, Hassan District; Begur, Bangalore District; Sosale and Talkad, Mysore District and in the Department of Archæology, Mysore, have been marked and selected for preservation in the Museum. Arrangements will be made in the near future for their acquisition and transport to Bangalore.

Sri N. R. Banerjee, M.A., Assistant Superintendent, Department of Archæology, Southern Circle, Madras, who was on a study tour, visited the Museum at Bangalore, for purposes of studying the collections of antiquities in the Archæological section, specially the megalithic pottery from Coorg. He was given all the facilities to study the exhibits as well as to take photographs of the same.

The Superintendent, Archæological Section, Indian Museum, Calcutta, desired to have plaster casts of certain Hoysala pieces of sculpture exhibited in this Museum, for displaying the replicas so prepared in the Archæological section of the Indian Museum. He deputed the modeller of the Archæological section of the Indian Museum for this purpose. The modeller was given the necessary facilities to take impressions in clay and prepare the replicas of some Hoysala sculptures, *i.e.*, Gajasuramardana, Surya and Brahma exhibited in the Government Museum, Bangalore. Arrangements were also made in this connection with the owners of the Patan Bhavan, Bangalore, to permit the modeller of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, to prepare a plaster cast of a Ganesha image lying in the compound of Patan Bhavan.

The Director of Archæology in Mysore, was kind enough to spare on loan a representative set of forty-three antiquities belonging to Chandravalli, Chitaldrug District, for display in the Archæological section of this institution.

The Government of Mysore were also pleased to permit the State Huzur Treasury, Bangalore, to send certain antiquities and exhibition medals, that were lodged there for safe custody, to the Government Museum, Bangalore, for display.

Industrial Art.—In order to improve this section by acquiring artistic metalware and ancient bronzes, etc., that are of no use to the temples either for worship or for processional purpose, the Curator-in-charge, visited Yelahanka, Bangalore Taluk and examined an old deteriorated temple car (Ratha), which contained some wooden art pieces. As these pieces of art were found worthy of preservation in the Museum, steps have been taken with the local authorities for acquiring them.

Restoration and Preservation.—As usual the periodical cleaning of the exhibits displayed in the various sections of the institution was attended to promptly. All the specimens preserved in rectified spirit have been cleaned, refitted into position and the jars were filled in with fresh spirit.

Educational Work.—The Systematic guide lectures to students from Primary Schools on History, Fauna, Flora and Industries of Mysore, are being delivered as usual on Saturday mornings. Usual explanatory talks to illiterate visitors formed an essential feature of the educational work of the institution. It may be pointed out in this connection that this aspect of Museum work can only be expanded with much advantage for the benefit of illiterate visitors, when special staff of guide lecturers, trained for the purpose, are appointed.

Though the Assistant Inspector of Education, City Range, Bangalore, who was requested to co-operate in the educational work of the institution, was not able to furnish the required information during the period under report, yet 6,745 students belonging to 135 schools and colleges, in and around Bangalore, accompanied by 174 teachers were shown round the Museum. Details are noted in Appendix 'D'.

Library.—The necessity for the expansion of the Museum Library for affording facilities for research is engaging attention for some time past and with this object in view, efforts are being made to augment the collection of books in the library. The principal additions to the library consists of annual reports and other publications of Museums, in and out side India, received as presentation or exchange. Apart from the periodicals and journals subscribed for, some books, which are useful for reference and study, relating to art, archæology, natural history, etc., were purchased during the period under report. A detailed list of books and periodicals acquired is furnished in Appendix 'B'.

Some important exhibits of Hoysala sculptures and sandalwood carvings displayed in the Museum have been illustrated in the annual report for the year 1947-48.

Building.—Annual repairs, white-washing, etc., connected with Museum building were attended to by the Public Works Department.

On account of the limited space in the present building, it has become not possible to expand the different sections of the institution until extra accommodation is provided. Proposals for the construction of a new building have already been submitted to Government and orders are awaited thereon.

Visitors.—The total number of visitors who visited the Museum during the period of nine months under report is 234,598 as against 494,437 in the previous year. The large crowds to the institution were, as usual, on 'Karaga' and other local festivals.

Staff.—The Cottage Industries Museum, Exhibition Buildings, Mysore, continued to be under the supervision of the Curator, Government Museum, Bangalore. Sri K. Narayana Iyengar, M.A., Curator, Government Museum, Bangalore, was transferred during January 1950 on an acting basis as Assistant to the Director of Archæology, Mysore. The senior acting Assistant Curator has been placed in charge of the duties of the Curator.

Government, while sanctioning the weightage only to the superior staff of the Museum in their existing old grade from 1st January 1947, were pleased to revise the scales of pay of one Assistant Curator on Rs. 75-5-100 to Rs. 60-5-90-6-150.

Stock Registers.—The general accessions register and registers of library and furniture have been written up-to-date.

Maintenance.—The budget grant of the institution for the period under report was Rs. 10,400 and the actual expenditure amounted to Rs. 9,993-12-0.

R. RAMAKRISHNA,
Director.

APPENDIX 'A'.

List of specimens acquired for the Mysore Government Museum, Bangalore, during the period ending 31st March 1950.

Sl. No.	Description	Remarks
1	Specimen of a snake (spirit specimen) ...	Subedar C. D. N Kakria, R.I.S.A. Bangalore.
2—10	Nine pieces of copper ...	Government of Mysore.
11	One small mud pot ...	
12	One small Bharani ...	
13—23	Eleven Silver medals	
24—109	Eighty-six Bronze medals	
	Dasara Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition 1906.	
110	One silver medal awarded to Mysore State by the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition of the Indian National Congress Exhibition of 1904.	
111—114	Neolithic Implements ...	
115—116	Pestles ...	
117	Smith's mould	
118—122	Iron Implements	The Director of Archæology in Mysore.
123—143	Pot-sherds	
114	Ganesha image (Pot stone)	
145—151	Pottery	
152	Tile	
153—154	Miscellaneous	

APPENDIX 'B'.

List of books added to the Mysore Government Museum Library during the period ending 31st March 1950.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Donor
1	Bulletin of the Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery, Baroda, Vol. V, Parts I and II.	Curator, Baroda State Museum, Baroda.
2	The Sarawak Museum Journal, Vol. V (No. I new series).	Curator, Sarawak Museum Sarawak.
3	Report on the Administration of Mysore for the year 1947-48.	Government of Mysore.
4	Administration Report of the Government Museum, Trivandrum, for the year M.E. 1123.	Officer-in-charge, Government Museum, Trivandrum.
5	Administration Report of Sri Chitralayam, Trivandrum, for the year M.E. 1123.	Officer-in-charge, Sri Chitralayam, Trivandrum.
6	Administration Report of the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Bombay, for the year 1947-48.	Chairman, Board of Trustees.
7	Russel Cotes Art Gallery Bulletin October 1949.	Curator, Russel Cotes Art Gallery, Bournemouth.
8	Report on the Administration of the Archaeological Department and Sumer Public Library for the year ended 30th September 1948.	Superintendent, Jodhpur Museum, Jodhpur.
9	Some Vertebrate Animals of Ceylon, Vol. I.	} Director, National Museum, Ceylon.
10	Bulletin of the National Museum of Ceylon, Vol. XXV, Parts I & II.	
11	Forty-second Annual Report of the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff for 1948-49.	Director, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
12	Chinese Stone Sculpture ...	M/s. Junkinchi Mayuyama Mayuyama & Co., Tokyo, Japan.
13	Kalpana a Bi-monthly Journal ...	The Manager, Kalpana, Begum Bazaar, Hyderabad Deccan.
14	Archaeology in India ...	} Ministry of Education, Department of Archaeology, New Delhi.
15	Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXVII, Part I.	
BY PURCHASE.		
1	Indian Hill Birds by Salim Ali
2	Dance of Siva by Ananda Coomaraswamy.	...
3	Education in India by Altkar

Sl. No.	Particulars	Donor
4	Ancient Indian Chronology by Probodh Chandra Sengupta.	...
5	Development of Hindu Iconography by Jitendra Nath Banerjee.	...
6	Fauna of British India Mammalia, Second Edition, Vols. I and II by R.I. Pocock.	...
7	Vanaspathi by Girija Prasanna Majumdar.	...
8	Contributions of South India to Indian Culture by <i>Rajasevasakta Dwara Bahadur</i> S. Krishnaswami Iyengar.	...
9	The Successions of Satavahanas by Dinesh Chandra Sercar.	...
10	Mauṛya and Sanga Art by Nihar Ranjan Ray.	...
11	Hindu Religion, Customs and Manners by P. Thomas.	...
12	Museums Journal Vol. XLIX Nos. 3-11.	...
13	Journal of the Royal Society of Arts, Vol. XCVII, Nos. 4796-4814.	...
14	Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay, Vol. XLVIII, Nos. 2-4.	...
15	Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. X Part II and Vol. XI, Part I, with Index to Vols. I to X.	...
16	Journal of the Mythic Society, Vol. XXXIX, No. I.	...
17	Journal of the Indian Museum, Vol. V.	...

APPENDIX 'C'.

Detailed list of Visitors during the period ending 31st March 1950.

Sl. No.	Months	Names written in										Literates		School Children	Total		
		English	Other languages								Illiterates						
			Europeans and Persians	Indians	Kannada	Tamil	Telugu	Hindustani	Mahratti	Gujarati	Nagari	Malayalam	Men	Women	Men	Women	
1	July	98	1,971	385	188	21	65	80	...	8	11	2,689	88	13,471	19,120	352	26,605
2	August	111	1,767	269	99	16	53	20	...	5	4	2,801	63	10,265	8,274	503	21,436
3	September	151	2,389	312	186	36	46	11	...	12	8	3,059	87	11,500	9,915	326	24,387
4	October	81	2,553	410	200	45	44	36	...	9	...	3,257	134	20,544	13,918	941	38,789
5	November	51	1,947	282	169	11	49	11	...	11	3	2,461	78	12,521	10,000	1,147	26,202
6	December	67	2,013	268	117	11	38	26	...	9	...	2,466	88	12,791	11,471	1,249	28,060
7	January	67	1,655	249	96	16	34	20	...	8	2	2,088	64	11,583	18,322	496	27,878
8	February	35	1,273	271	91	23	43	9	...	7	1	1,738	23	10,250	8,878	1,013	21,892
9	March	50	956	171	69	12	26	11	...	3	...	1,367	31	9,368	7,465	788	16,819
Grand Total		711	16,524	2,587	1,218	191	389	174	...	67	24	21,266	641	112,593	93,353	6,745	234,598

APPENDIX 'D'.

Statement showing the number of Educational Institutions that visited the Museum for study during the period ending 31st March 1950.

Sl. No.	Months	Number of Educational Institutions	Number of Students	Number of Teachers
1	July 1949 ...	13	352	11
2	August „ ...	14	503	17
3	September „ ...	11	326	14
4	October „ ...	17	941	16
5	November „ ...	18	1,147	22
6	December „ ...	23	1,249	34
7	January 1950 „ ...	9	426	12
8	February „ ...	17	1,013	27
9	March „ ...	13	788	21
	Total ...	135	6,745	174

APPENDIX 'E'.

Statement showing the budget grant and the actual expenditure for the period ending 31st March 1950

Sl. No.	Head	Budget grant			Expenditure		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Establishment ...	7,200	0	0	7,134	17	0
2	Purchase of Specimens and other Special Charges.	2,000	0	0	1,957	7	0
3	Contingencies ...	600	0	0	494	0	0
4	Travelling Allowance ...	600	0	0	407	6	0
	Total ...	10,400	0	0	9,993	12	0



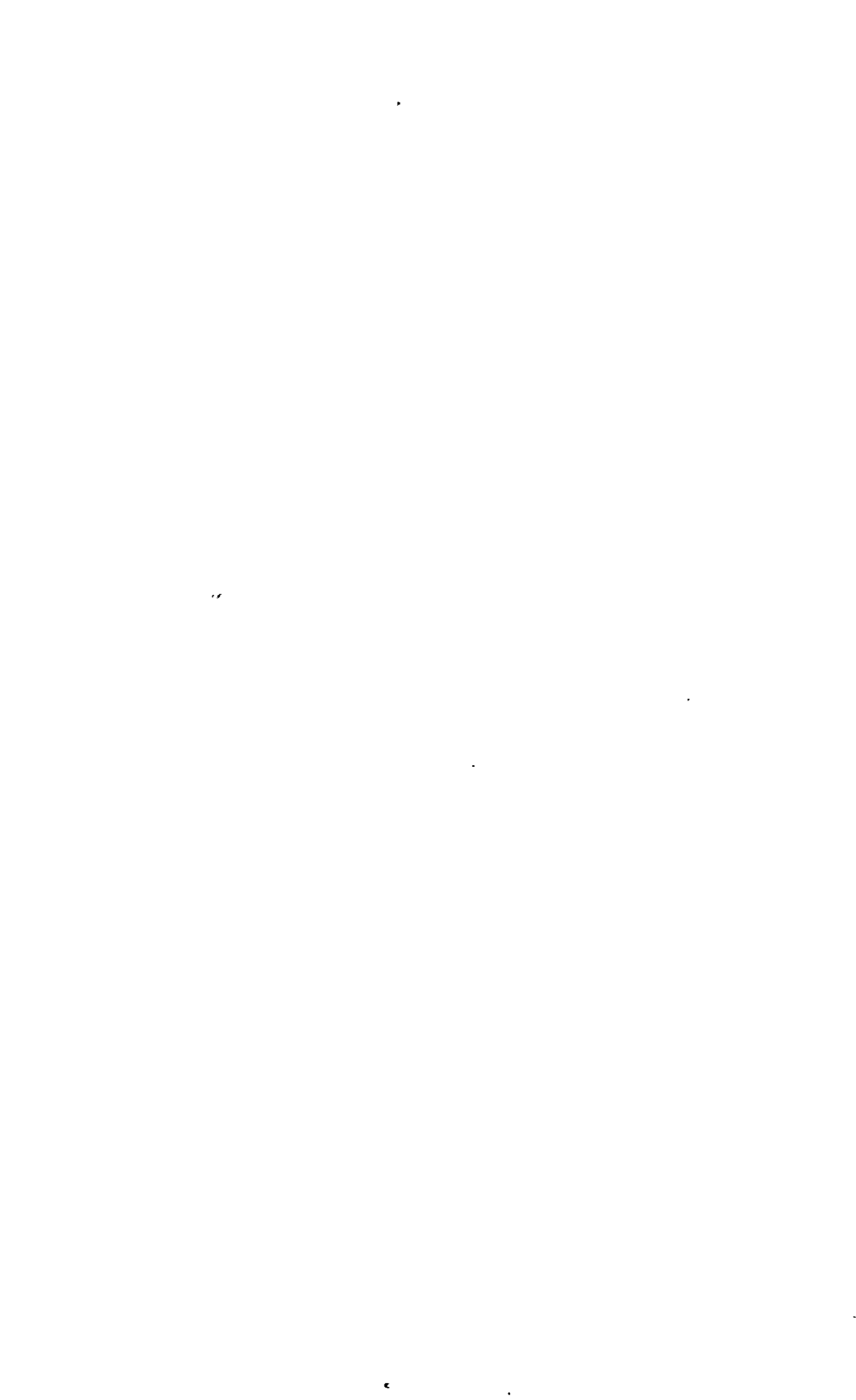
Garuda—Wooden—from a temple car (Ratha)
Yelahanka, Bangalore Taluk—about 200
years old. (Height 18".)



Hanuma—Wooden—from a temple car
(Ratha)—Yelahanka, Bangalore Taluk—
about 200 years old. (Height 18".)



Bracket image—Horse—Wooden—from a temple car (Ratha)—Yelahanka, Bangalore Taluk--about 200 years old. (Height 18".)



"A book that is shut is but a block"

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